



LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces the claims originally in this application.

1. (Previously Presented) A method of generating user availability information from call control events within a telephone system, comprising:

receiving call control events from said telephone system, wherein each of said call control events is ascribed one of either an absolute indicator of availability or evidence of availability; and

for each of said call control events to which said absolute indicator of availability has been ascribed generating an indication of said user availability based thereon, and otherwise generating said indication of user availability on said evidence of availability.

2. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 24, wherein said running sum is updated by a discrete amount in response to call control events characterized by discrete evidence of availability and by incremental amounts in response to call control events characterized by incremental evidence of availability, whereby said indication of user availability is maintained for a predetermined period of time in the absence of further call control events.

3. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said running sum is prevented from being updated by said incremental amounts beyond a predetermined default value.

4. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said indication is 'available' in the event said running sum exceeds a predetermined upper decision level, 'unavailable' in the event said running sum is below a predetermined lower decision level, and 'indeterminate' in the event said running sum is intermediate said predetermined upper and lower decision levels.

5. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said default value is selected to bias said running sum toward said lower decision level.

6. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

7. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said absolute indicator of availability is one of either 'available' or 'unavailable'.

8. (Previously Presented) A system for generating user availability information from call control events within a telephone system, comprising:

an event queue for receiving and storing call control events from said telephone system, wherein each of said call control events is ascribed one of either an absolute indicator of availability or evidence of availability; and

an interpretation engine for accessing said call control events in said event queue and for each of said call control events to which said absolute indicator of

availability has been ascribed generating an indication of said user availability based thereon, and otherwise generating said indication of user availability on said evidence of availability.

9. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 25, wherein said interpretation engine updates said value by a discrete amount in response to call control events characterized by discrete evidence of availability and by incremental amounts in response to call control events characterized by incremental evidence of availability, whereby said indication of user availability is maintained for a predetermined period of time in the absence of further call control events.

10. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 9, interpretation engine prevents said running sum from being updated by said incremental amounts beyond a predetermined default value.

11. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said interpretation engine generates an indication of 'available' in the event said running sum exceeds a predetermined upper decision level, 'unavailable' in the event said running sum is below a predetermined lower decision level, and 'indeterminate' in the event said running sum is intermediate said predetermined upper and lower decision levels.

12. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 11, wherein said default value is selected to bias said running sum toward said lower decision level.

13. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 8, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

Claims 14-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 2, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

17. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 3, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

18. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 4, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

19. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 5, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

20. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 9, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

21. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 10, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

22. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 11, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

23. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 12, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

24. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising updating a running sum for said user based on said evidence of availability, and wherein said indication of user availability is generated based on said running sum.

25. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 8, wherein said Interpretation Engine generates said indication of user availability based on a running sum that is updated based on said evidence of availability.

26. (Previously Presented) A method of generating user availability information from call control events within a communication system, comprising:

receiving call control events from said communication system;
deriving indications of availability from said call control events; and
generating user availability information based on said indications of availability.

27. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 26, further comprising ascribing one of an absolute indicator of availability and evidence of availability to each of said call control, and for each of said call control events to which said absolute indicator of availability has been ascribed, generating an indication of said user availability based thereon, and otherwise generating said indication of user availability on said evidence of availability.

28. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 27, further comprising updating a running sum for said user based on said evidence of availability, and wherein said indication of user availability is generated based on said running sum.

29. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said running sum is updated by a discrete amount in response to call control events characterized by discrete evidence of availability and by incremental amounts in response to call control events characterized by incremental evidence of availability,

whereby said indication of user availability is maintained for a predetermined period of time in an absence of further call control events.

30. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said running sum is prevented from being updated by said incremental amounts beyond a predetermined default value.

31. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 30, wherein said indication is 'available' in the event said running sum exceeds a predetermined upper decision level, 'unavailable' in the event said running sum is below a predetermined lower decision level, and 'indeterminate' in the event said running sum is intermediate said predetermined upper and lower decision levels.

32. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 31, wherein said default value is selected to bias said running sum toward said lower decision level.

33. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 27, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

34. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 30, wherein said absolute indicator of availability is one of either 'available' or 'unavailable'.

35. (Previously Presented) A system for generating user availability information from call control events within a telephone system, comprising:

an event queue for receiving and storing call control events from said telephone system; and

an interpretation engine for accessing said call control events in said event queue, deriving indications of availability from said call control events, and generating user availability information based on said indications of availability.

36. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 35, wherein said interpretation engine ascribes one of an absolute indicator of availability and evidence of availability to each of said call control, and for each of said call control events to which said absolute indicator of availability has been ascribed, generates an indication of said user availability based thereon, and otherwise generates said indication of user availability based on said evidence of availability.

37. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 36, wherein said interpretation engine generates said indication of user availability based on a running sum that is updated based on said evidence of availability.

38. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 37, wherein said interpretation engine updates said running sum by a discrete amount in respect to call control events characterized by discrete evidence of availability and by incremental amounts in response to call control events characterized by incremental evidence of

availability, whereby said indication of user availability is maintained for a predetermined period of time in an absence of further call control events.

39. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 38, interpretation engine prevents said running sum from being updated by said incremental amounts beyond a predetermined default value.

40. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 39, wherein said interpretation engine generates an indication of 'available' in the event said running sum exceeds a predetermined upper decision level, 'unavailable' in the event said running sum is below a predetermined lower decision level, and 'indeterminate' in the event said running sum is intermediate said predetermined upper and lower decision levels.

41. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 39, wherein said default value is selected to bias said running sum toward said lower decision level.

42. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 35, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

43. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 27, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

44. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 28, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

45. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

46. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 30, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

47. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 36, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

48. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 37, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

49. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 38, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

50. (New) In a system for generating an indicator of user availability to other users who subscribe to said user's availability, the improvement comprising subscribing said user to said user's own availability.

51. (New) The improvement of claim 50, wherein said system automatically subscribes said user to said user's own availability.

52. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying said indication of user availability to said user.

53. (New) The system of claim 8, wherein said interpretation engine displays said indication of user availability to said user.

54. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising displaying said user availability information to said user.

55. (New) The system of claim 35, wherein said interpretation engine displays said user availability information to said user.

56. (New) A method of generating user availability information from call control events within a telephone system, comprising:

receiving call control events from said telephone system, wherein at least one of said call control events is ascribed an absolute indicator of availability; and

for each of said call control events to which said absolute indicator of availability has been ascribed generating an indication of said user availability based thereon.

57. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein said absolute indicator of availability comprises activation of a Do Not Disturb (DND) feature.

58. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein said absolute indicator of availability comprises activation of an Off Hook.

59. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein said absolute indicator of availability comprises activation of Call Forward Always.